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Editor-in-Chief
JAMES M. SHERMAN
Cornell University

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Dr. Joshua Lederberg
Department of Genetics
The University of Wisconsin
Madison 6, Wisconsin

Dear Doctor Lederberg:

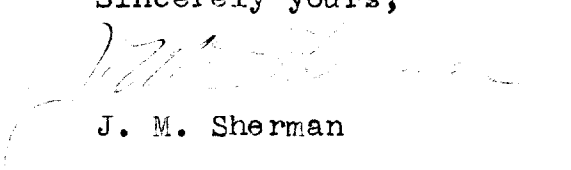
Your interesting paper has been accepted and will be scheduled for the February issue of the Journal.

In order that you may not feel slighted by thinking that your paper is only of interest to me and has not been passed upon by an "outstanding authority," I will add that it has also been reviewed by a competent geneticist who approved it without making any suggestions or criticisms.

There is one comment, though not a criticism, that I will make. Your use of the word "prototroph" in the footnote to your table is of course absolutely proper and correct so far as the English language and meaning of words are concerned, especially since you specifically define it. It does nevertheless grate the ears of an older bacteriologist, but I hasten to add that it is probably a very good thing for us old-timers to have our ears pinned back fairly frequently. As you probably know, in the narrow technical jargon of the bacteriologist, the word "prototrophic" was used synonymously with the word "autotrophic" for about half a century. However, in more recent years the term "autotrophic" has been the preferred term for the chemo-synthetic bacteria.

With all best wishes,

Sincerely yours,



J. M. Sherman

JMS:rh